14: Krauss--167-168 E-5 (no date) 1888 Yakut
116, 177, 557, 624, 771, 829

It is difficult to admit that the autochthonous Yakut who is so conservative in all his customs and convictions and has not changed his manners and way of life during the centuries, should have yielded so easily in his religious belief. If the Yakut professes the Christian faith because the ruling class professes it and would not sanction the election of a delegate in the village community other than orthodox, and because only for Christians there is a chance to get once a decoration [168] (medal) from that white Tsar, who somewhere, very far, lives in a tent of glass, and, sitting on a gigantic tabouret of sugar, sucks sugar unceasingly--if, I repeat, the Yakut poses as a Christian in order to become the boss of those who surround him, such practical considerations do by no means convince him that it is necessary to give up his shamanism and to approach the latter faith as soon as he feels prompted; particularly because he will not find a similar satisfaction in Christian belief.

/182 cont./

114 Olenék, near the mouth, he found the sunken graves overgrown with moss and lichens; only a weathered wooden cross with a barely legible inscription recalls the hero to mind. Perhaps an age that has again turned its interest to a significant degree to the navigation of the Arctic Ocean will set up a worthy monument for this deserving champion at the place where he ended his heroic career.

175 At that time Russian peasants probably lived
178 here; perhaps the present inhabitants are in part descendants
[651] of the many crews that came here with those bold commanders; they still call themselves krestjáne, i.e., peasants, and their crown tax seems to be standardized accordingly, differing from that of the other Jakuten /Yakut/; in everything else they are completely Jakutized and any reminder of former times has
[829] disappeared. But they complain that they are becoming ever
[162] fewer, not, say, because of especially devastating sicknesses, but because only daughters are preponderantly born to them. I do not know whether this phenomenon also occurs among other ichthyophagists. But that is what they are in the truest sense of the word.

226 During the greater part of the year they feed themselves and
262 their dogs almost exclusively on fish. Mukssún and o'mul of
231 considerable size are the principal fish, also taiméne /taimen/ and néljma, for which, however, this was not the proper season, and therefore, instead of the anticipated delicacy, we had
226 to be content with the former, less prized fish. Otherwise only a few smaller kinds of fish are found here, but no sturgeon or sterlet, although these, as we /183/ learned on the journey, are caught, even though rarely, much farther upstream in the region of the Ssiligír. Fishing is also productive in the tundra lakes; in particular two kinds present there were brought to us, the ihúkü and the mungnúr, the latter a very tasty fish that is also quite common in the Olenék itself, where from the Ssiligír